

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION**

Please amend the paragraph on page 31, line 23 as follows:

Back in ~~fig. 14~~ Fig. 14, in step S423, the rinsing water to which the metal ions and the treatment agent (softening agent) are added is agitated by a powerful water flow (powerful swirl) and thus promotes contact of the laundry with the metal ions and attachment of the treatment agent (softening agent) to the laundry.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 38, line 24 as follows:

The first “different countermeasure” is “to feed water containing metal ions to carry out rinsing for correcting uneven spreading of laundry.” In this way, in case where rinsing is performed for correcting uneven spreading of laundry with ~~flesh~~ fresh water being fed, since the metal ions are added to the water, the effect of antimicrobial treatment on the laundry does not fade away.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 39, line 13 as follows:

When water containing metal ions is used while uneven spreading of laundry is being corrected, the metal of the electrodes 113 and 114 is consumed faster than its ~~designed~~ designed service life, and the time when metal ions are not available comes earlier. However, in the above manner, when rinsing is performed for correcting uneven spreading of laundry by using water containing no metal ions, in order to restrain the consumption of the metal ions, the fact is indicated and/or notified to users by means of display on the operation/display panel 81 or voice message, and users can know that the expected antimicrobial effect may not be achieved.